

53 Stat. 1180.
38 U. S. C. note foll.
§ 724.

one foot, or one hand, or one eye, the rate of pension provided in part II, paragraph II, (a) to (j), shall be increased by \$26.25 per month."

Approved December 6, 1944.

[CHAPTER 508]

AN ACT

December 6, 1944
[H. R. 5289]
[Public Law 463]

To provide for the acceptance and protection by the United States of property within the authorized boundaries of the Everglades National Park project, Florida, pending the establishment of the park, and for other purposes.

Everglades National Park, Fla.
Acceptance of property pending establishment.

Restriction.

Provisional protection.

Reversionary provision.

Establishment upon execution of provisions.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, (a) for the purpose of protecting the scenery, the wildlife, and other natural features of the region authorized to be established as the Everglades National Park by the Act of May 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 816; 16 U. S. C., secs. 410, 410a-410c), notwithstanding any provision contained in that Act, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized in his discretion to accept on behalf of the United States any land, submerged land, or interests therein, subject to such reservations of oil, gas, or mineral rights as the Secretary may approve, within the area of approximately two thousand square miles recommended by said Secretary in his report to the Congress of December 3, 1930, pursuant to the Act of March 1, 1929 (45 Stat. 1443): *Provided*, That no general development of the property accepted pursuant to this Act shall be undertaken nor shall the park be established until title satisfactory to the Secretary to a major portion of the lands, to be selected by him, within the aforesaid recommended area shall have been vested in the United States: *Provided further*, That until the property acquired by the United States pursuant to this Act has been cleared of the aforesaid reservations, the Secretary in his discretion shall furnish such protection thereover as may be necessary for the accomplishment of the purposes of this Act: *And provided further*, That in the event the park is not established within ten years from the date of the approval of this Act, or upon the abandonment of the park at any time after its establishment, title to any lands accepted pursuant to the provisions of this Act shall thereupon automatically revert in the State of Florida or other grantors of such property to the United States.

(b) Upon the execution of the aforesaid provisions relating to establishment thereof, the Everglades National Park shall be established by order of the Secretary which shall be published in the Federal Register.

Approved December 6, 1944.

[CHAPTER 509]

AN ACT

December 6, 1944
[S. 1373]
[Public Law 464]

To authorize the Secretary of War to convey to the people of Puerto Rico for school purposes a certain building and lot known as the Mayaguez Barracks Military Reservation now under the jurisdiction of the War Department.

Puerto Rico.
Conveyance of property for school purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War be and he is hereby authorized, under such terms and conditions as he may deem advisable, to convey to the people of Puerto Rico for educational purposes a certain building and lot consisting of the Mayaguez Military Barracks and one and seventy-four one-hundredths acres of land, more or less, located in the municipality of Mayaguez,

Puerto Rico: *Provided*, That when said land and improvements shall cease to be used for the purpose aforesaid, the same shall revert to the United States Government.

Approved December 6, 1944.

[CHAPTER 519]

AN ACT

To amend that portion of the Act approved June 30, 1906 (34 Stat. 697, 750), authorizing the settlement of accounts of deceased officers and enlisted men of the Army.

December 7, 1944
[S. 1795]
[Public Law 466]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the portion of the Act entitled "An Act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1907, and for other purposes", approved June 30, 1906 (34 Stat. 697, 750; 10 U. S. C. 868), relating to the settlement of accounts of deceased officers and enlisted men of the Army, which reads:

Settlement of accounts of deceased Army personnel.

"Hereafter, in the settlement of the accounts of deceased officers or enlisted men of the Army, where the amount due the decedent's estate is less than \$500 and no demand is presented by a fully appointed legal representative of the estate, the accounting officers may allow the amount found due to the decedent's widow or legal heirs in the following order of precedence: First, to the widows; second, if decedent left no widow, or the widow be dead at time of settlement, then to the children or their issue, per stirpes; third, if no widow or descendants, then to the father and mother in equal parts, provided the father has not abandoned the support of his family, in which case to the mother alone; fourth, if either the father or mother be dead then to the one surviving; fifth, if there be no widow, child, father, or mother at the date of settlement, then to the brothers and sisters and children of deceased brothers and sisters, per stirpes: *Provided*, That this Act shall not be so construed as to prevent payment from the amount due the decedent's estate of funeral expenses, provided a claim therefor is presented by the person or persons who actually paid the same before settlement by the accounting officers", is hereby amended to read as follows:

Portion of law superseded.

"Hereafter, in the settlement of the accounts of deceased officers or enlisted men of the Army, where the amount due the decedent's estate is less than \$1,000 and no demand is presented by a duly appointed legal representative of the estate, the accounting officers may allow the amount found due to the decedent's widow or legal heirs in the following order of precedence: First, to the widow; second, if decedent left no widow, or the widow be dead at time of settlement, then to the children or their issue, per stirpes; third, if no widow or descendants, then to the father and mother in equal parts, provided the father has not abandoned the support of his family, in which case to the mother alone; fourth, if either the father or mother be dead, then to the one surviving; fifth, if there be no widow, child, father, or mother at the date of settlement, then to the brothers and sisters and children of deceased brothers and sisters, per stirpes. Where the amount due the decedent's estate is \$1,000 or more and no demand is presented by a duly appointed legal representative of the estate, the accounting officers may allow \$1,000 of the amount due to the estate to the widow or legal heirs in the order of precedence hereinabove set forth: *Provided*, That this Act shall not be so construed as to prevent payment from the amount due the decedent's estate of funeral expenses, provided a claim therefor is presented by the person or persons who actually paid the same before settlement by the accounting officers."

Amendment.

Where amount due is less than \$1,000.

Order of distribution.

Where amount due is \$1,000 or more.

Funeral expenses.

Approved December 7, 1944.